REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application. Claims 1-31 were pending in the application. Claims 4 and 11 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-16, 21, 24, and 27 have been amended.

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have amended the claims to further clarify the technological arts for the invention. Claims 1, 10, 16, and 21 as amended advance the technological arts in various aspects of searching data records using computing systems, such as receiving search criteria "caching the search results in a computer memory," "searching a database," etc. Furthermore, the results produced by the claimed invention are the data records identified, which are useful, concrete, and tangible. Therefore, claims 1, 10, 16, and 21 as amended contain statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Claims 2-3, 5-9, 12-15, 17-20, and 22-26 depend, directly or indirectly, from the independent claims 1, 10, 16, and 21, respectively. Claims 2-3, 5-9, 12-15, 17-20, and 22-26 include the limitations set forth in their respective base claims, and thus, contain statutory subject matter for at least the reason discussed above with respect to claims 1, 10, 16, and 21. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-17, 19-22, and 24-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,292,802 (hereinafter "Kessenich"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1, as amended, sets forth passing the received search criteria to a Virtual Business Component (VBC), the VBC representing a database as a business object. The Examiner alleged that Kessenich discloses passing the received search criteria to a virtual business component. Applicants respectfully disagree. Kessenich merely discloses a collection of text documents 106 and a database file 108 in Figure 1 and the related description (Kessenich, col. 5, ln.62-64). The database file 108 and the collection of text documents 106 may reside physically on storage devices locally accessed by database server process 104 or may reside on remote computing nodes accessible via paths 154 and 156 respectively (Kessenich, col. 6, ln. 20-24).

However, the VBC in claim 1 is different from the collection of text documents 106 and the database file 108 in Kessenich. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner misconstrued the description of the VBC in the Specification. In particular, the Specification states "A Virtual Business Component 2306, 2310 (shown in Figure 23) generally *represents* external data as a business component, ..." which enables unified presentation of legacy and non-legacy data (Specification, p. 41, ln. 9-17, emphasis added). The aforementioned statement does not mean that a VBC is external data. As illustrated in Figure 23 of the present application, the VBCs 2305, 2310 are components distinct from the search data sources at the bottom of Figure 23 according to some embodiments of the present invention.

Kessenich fails to disclose passing the received search criteria to a Virtual

Business Component (VBC), the VBC representing a database as a business object. For

at least this reason, Kessenich fails to anticipate claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is

respectfully requested.

Furthermore, claim 1 as amended further recites that the VBC representing a

database as a **business object** (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that

Kessenich fails to disclose a VBC representing a database as a business object.

Therefore, Kessenich fails to anticipate claim 1 for at least this reason. Withdrawal of the

rejection is respectfully requested.

For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, claims 10, 16, 21,

and 27 are not anticipated by Kessenich. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to

withdraw the rejections.

Claims 2-3, 5-9, 11-15, 17-20, 22-26, and 28-30 depend, directly or indirectly,

from claims 10, 16, 21, and 27. Therefore, claims 2-3, 5-9, 11-15, 17-20, 22-26, and 28-

30 are not anticipated by Kessenich for at least the reasons discussed above with respect

to claims 1, 10, 16, 21, and 27. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Furthermore, claims 7 and 14 are not anticipated by Kessenich for the following

reason. Claims 7 and 14 set forth caching the search results in *a search execution

business service*. In contrast, Kessenich fails to disclose the above limitation. Kessenich

merely discloses that "the records are cached locally by the *web browser*" (Kessenich,

col. 18, ln. 43-46; emphasis added). Therefore, Kessenich fails to anticipate claims 7 and

14 for at least the above reason. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 3, 18, 23, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentalbe over Kessenich in view of U.S. Patent 6,772,150 (hereinafter "Whitman"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 3, 18, 23, and 31 depend from claims 1, 16, 21, and 27, respectively, and thus, include all limitations set forth in their respective base claims. For the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, Kessenich fails to disclose all limitations in claims 3, 18, 23, and 31. Moreover, Whitman fails to make up the deficiencies in Kessenich. Whitman discloses a web server 131 and a query server 132 to access a HTML database 134 and a bibliographic database 133, respectively, and does not teach or suggest the use of a VBC. Since a combination of Kessenich and Whitman does not include every limitation in claims 3, 18, 23, and 31, claims 3, 18, 23, and 31 are patentable over Kessenich and Whitman. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

For the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 3, claims 18, 23, 31 are patentable over Kessenich in view of Whitman. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.
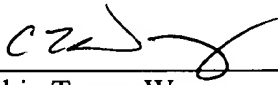
Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call C. Teresa Wong at (408) 720-8300, x377.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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